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## Zero Hora - Editora Jornalística S.A.

Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 and Report of Independent Accountants



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## **Report of Independent Accountants**

August 1, 2003

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders Zero Hora - Editora Jornalística S.A.

- We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of Zero Hora Editora Jornalística S.A. as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and the related statements of operations, of changes in stockholders' equity and of changes in financial position for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements.
- We conducted our audits in accordance with Brazilian approved auditing standards which require that we perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are fairly presented in all material respects. Accordingly, our work included, among other procedures: (a) planning our audits taking into consideration the significance of balances, the volume of transactions and the accounting and internal control systems of the company, (b) examining, on a test basis, evidence and records supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, and (c) assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- As mentioned in Note 16 to the financial statements, the company decided to defer recognition of the foreign exchange loss for the quarter ended March 31, 1999 and the year ended December 31, 2001. Although permitted by law, the deferred recognition is not in accordance with accounting practices adopted in Brazil, which require the recognition of exchange variations in the period in which they occur. As a consequence, the company's stockholders' equity as of December 31, 2001 is overstated by R\$ 16,900 thousand and the loss for the year then ended is understated by R\$ 4,010 thousand, net of the related tax effects.



August 1, 2003 Zero Hora - Editora Jornalística S.A.

- In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter mentioned in paragraph 3, the financial statements audited by us present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Zero Hora Editora Jornalística S.A. at December 31, 2002 and 2001, and the results of its operations, the changes in stockholders' equity and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting practices adopted in Brazil.
- We have also reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Zero Hora Editora Jornalística S.A. as of and for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2003 and 2002. These financial statements are the responsibility of the company's management.
- We conducted our reviews in accordance with standards approved by the Institute of Independent Auditors of Brazil (IBRACON). A review consists, principally, of applying analytical procedures to financial data and making inquires of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters regarding the criteria used to prepare the financial statements. A review does not represent an audit conducted in accordance with Brazilian approved auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.
- As mentioned in paragraph 3 above and Note 16 to the financial statements, the company decided to defer recognition of the foreign exchange loss for the quarter ended March 31, 1999 and the year ended December 31, 2001. As a consequence, the company's stockholders' equity as of June 30, 2002 and the loss for the six-month period then ended are overstated by R\$ 10,970 thousand and R\$ 5,930 thousand, respectively, net of the related tax effects.
- Based on our reviews, except for the effects of the matter mentioned in paragraph 7, we are not aware of any material modifications that should made to the financial statements mentioned in paragraph 5 for them to be in conformity with accounting practices adopted in Brazil.

# PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS @

August 1, 2003 Zero Hora - Editora Jornalística S.A.

- As described in Note 7 (a) to the financial statements, the market value at December 31, 2002 of the company's investment in Net Serviços de Comunicação S.A. is approximately R\$ 1,490 thousand (June 30, 2003 R\$ 1,029 thousand), which is less than its carrying value of R\$ 11,276 thousand. Management believes that the difference between the carrying value and the market value of this investment is not permanent, and therefore no additional adjustment to the carrying value is necessary. Management will continue to monitor the situation and will record the necessary adjustment if a loss in value is determined to be permanent.
- As mentioned in Notes 1 and 10, the sharp devaluation of the Brazilian real against the U.S. dollar affected significantly the balance of loans and financings denominated in foreign currency during the six-month period ended December 31, 2002. Notwithstanding the recovery of the Brazilian real in relation to the US dollar during the first half of 2003, management of the RBS Group, which includes the company, is in the process of progressively substituting some of these international lines of credit with new lines obtained locally and denominated in local currency. The Company depends on the financial support of other RBS Group companies, together with the plans described in Note 1, to meet its cash needs.

Price waterhouse Coopers

Auditores Independentes

CRC 2SP000160/O-5 "F" RS

Carlos Alberto de Sousa

Partner

Contador CRC 1RJ056561/S-7 "S" RS

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Balance Sheet In thousands of Brazilian reais

June 30	2002 (Unaudited)	16,421 181,026	9,759	1,510	2,513 10,028 3,006	22		3,635 3,735 4,920	24,683	76,368 357 13,113 (68,411)		270,373
	Unaudited)	11,389	10,530 6,479	1,797 64,235	2,653 11,110 3,263	202,550	3,703	63 4,578 26	12,072	102,445 29,041 9,298 (104,591)	36,193	250,815
December 31	2001	16,063 149,279	11,030	1,321	2,622 8,029 1,329	189,673	6,173 1,133 6,496	511	20,586	9,223 67,502 17,351 (47,706)	46,370	256,629
	2002	33,207 196,016	10,709	1,912	3,159 10,819 2,484	258,306	3,411 622 3,629	63 4,681 26	12,432	102,445 29,041 11,357 (123,728)	19,115	289,853
	Liabilities and stockholders' equity	Current liabilities Trade accounts payable (Note 9) Loans (Note 10)	Salaries and social security contributions Provision for income taxes (Note 13 (b))	Other taxes payable Group companies (Note 6)	Commissions and bonuses payable Deferred subscription revenue Other	Long-term liabilities	Loans (thore 10) Provision for income taxes (Note 13 (b)) Deferred income taxes (Note 13 (b))	Advance for future capital increase (Note 6) Accounts payable to stockholders (Note 6) Provision for contingencies (Note 14) Other		Stockholders' equity (Note 11) Capital Capital reserves Revaluation reserve Accumulated losses		Total liabilities and stockholders' equity
June 30	2002 (Unaudited)	37,168 35,267	20,146 12,047	1,744 9,209	1,142	31,966	37.698	32,416	66,143	115,952		270,373
	2003 (Unaudited)	607	19,294	1,725 9,616	64,820	48,790 54,210	109.182	14,937	61,209	76,813		250,815
December 31	2001	36,952 32,794	6,572 11,704	1,519 6,462	96,792	21,941	29,007	33,744	70,582	130,830		256,629
	2002	9,733 32,439	10,380 25,856	1,452 8,624	2,503	51,572	6,090	14,937	65,935	81,586		289,853
		Current assets  Cash and cash equivalents (Note 4)  Trade accounts receivable	Group companies (Note 6) Inventories (Note 5)	Properties for sale Taxes recoverable		Long-term receivables Deferred income taxes (Note 13 (b)) Group companies (Note 6)	Judicial deposits and fiscal incentives	Permanent assets Investments (Note 7)	Property, plant and equipment (Note 8) Deferred charges (Note 16)			Total assets

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Operations In thousands of Brazilian reais, except per-share data

		Years ended December 31		month periods ended June 30
	2002	2001	2003	2002
			(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Operating revenues	01.104	05.001	45 725	42 177
Advertising	91,184	85,991 57,380	45,735	43,177
Classified advertisements	62,111 37,297	57,389	33,460 18,872	30,089
Circulation	71,635	41,909 61,584		19,158
Subscriptions Other	11,062	7,147	40,303 6,794	33,148 4,530
Taxes on revenues	(10,052)	(9,366)	(5,453)	(4,673)
1 4.1.00 011 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10		(2,022)		
	263,237	244,654	139,711	125,429
Operating costs				
Raw materials	(47,310)	(58,529)	(27,946)	(20,460)
Personnel	(34,097)	(31,629)	(16,315)	(15,655)
Depreciation	(16,708)	(21,985)	(7,106)	(9,548)
Royalties	(8,501)	(8,343)	(4,031)	(4,216)
Other	(10,213)	(8,494)	<u>(4,749</u> )	(4,801)
	(116,829)	(128,980)	(60,147)	(54,680)
Gross profit	146,408	115,674	79,564	70,749
Operating income (expenses)				
Selling	(95,690)	(92,175)	(48,979)	(44,653)
General and administrative	(37,952)	(34,060)	(21,110)	(16,787)
Financial income (Note 12)	7,817	4,631	16,126	4,332
Financial expenses (Note 12)	(92,151)	(24,722)	135	(49,791)
Other, net	(18)	(39)	(29)	(14)
	(217,994)	(146,365)	(53,857)	(106,913)
Operating income (loss)	(71,586)	(30,691)	25,707	(36,164)
Equity in the loss of affiliate (Note 7)	(699)			(699)
Provision for losses on investments (Note 7)	(17,464)	(3,013)		(037)
Non-operating income (expenses), net	387	(317)	82	280
Income (loss) before taxes on income	(89,362)	(34,021)	25,789	(36,583)
Social contribution (Note 13 (a))	6,652	2,193	(2,306)	3,305
Income tax (Note 13 (a))	18,438	9,034	(6,405)	9,179
Net income (loss) for the year/period	(64,272)	(22,794)	17,078	(24,099)
Net income (loss) per share at the end of the	(0.65)	(2.21)	A 15	(0.22)
year/period - R\$	(0.65)	(3.21)	0.17	(0.33)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity In thousands of Brazilian reais

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Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity In thousands of Brazilian reais						
	1	S	Capital reserves			
	Capital	Fiscal incentives	Share premium	Revaluation reserve	Accumulated	Total
At January 1, 2001 Capital increase (Note 11(a))	7,057 2,166	2,322	65,180	28,307	(33,395)	4,291 67,346
Realization of revaluation reserve Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve (Note 8 (a))  Designed of income taxes on the period level and reserve protesterment of enough of the period level.				(10,956)	10,956 (2,531)	(2,531)
reversal of income taxes on the price-fevel restatement of stockholders equity (deficit) accounts  Loss for the year					58 (22,794)	58 (22,794)
At December 31, 2001	9,223	2,322	65,180	17,351	(47,706)	46,370
Capital increase through capitalization of reserves (1900) of (4))  Capital increase (Note 11(a))  Prior year adjustment (Note 16)	26,077	(506,1)	28,684	(F00 5)	(16,900)	54,761 (16,900)
Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve (Note 8 (a))  Loss for the year				(+66.6)	(844) (844) (64,272)	(844)
At December 31, 2002	102,445	357	28,684	11,357	(123,728)	19,115
	7					

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Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity In thousands of Brazilian reais

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Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity In thousands of Brazilian reais						(continued)	
							erio esta esta esta esta esta esta esta esta
	I	Ö	Capital reserves				
	Capital	Fiscal incentives	Share premium	Revaluation	Accumulated	Total	<b>外提和基本部</b>
At January 1, 2003 Realization of revaluation reserve (Unaudited) Net income for the period (Unaudited)	102,445	357	28,684	11,357 (2,059)	(123,728) 2,059 17,078	19,115	- <b>43</b> 5555
At June 30, 2003 (Unaudited)	102,445	357	28,684	9,298	(104,591)	36,193	elekara a
At January 1, 2002  Capital increase through capitalization of reserves (Note 11 (a)) (Unaudited)  Realization of revaluation reserve (Unaudited)  Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve (Note 8 (a)) (Unaudited)  Loss for the period (Unaudited)	9,223 67,145	2,322 (1,965)	65,180	(4,238)	(47,706) 4,238 (844) (24,099)	(24,099)	rices is sufficient when himself and down at Shark while the sufficient was a
At June 30, 2002 (Unaudited)	76,368	357		13,113	(68,411)	21,427	lighte there is
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							. 1878 - 1888 <b>18</b> 4
The accommensions notes are an internal nort of these financial chatements							ing grand and a
The accompanying notes are an integral part of integral statements.	∞						

## Statement of Changes in Financial Position In thousands of Brazilian reais

Financial resources were provided by:  Net income (loss) for the year/period (64,272) (22,794) 17,078 (2  Expenses (income) not affecting working capital:  Deferred and long-term credit for income taxes (24,303) (9,529) 2,227 (1  Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve (844) (2,531)  Provision for contingencies 414 894 (103)  Equity in the loss of affiliate 699  Provision for losses on investments 17,464 3,013  Depreciation and amortization 16,680 39,818 7,153 1  Net book value of permanent asset disposals 1,024 1,834 26	2002 dited) 4,099) 1,647) (844) 653 699 8,576 791
Financial resources were provided by:  Net income (loss) for the year/period (64,272) (22,794) 17,078 (2  Expenses (income) not affecting working capital:  Deferred and long-term credit for income taxes (24,303) (9,529) 2,227 (1  Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve (844) (2,531)  Provision for contingencies 414 894 (103)  Equity in the loss of affiliate 699  Provision for losses on investments 17,464 3,013  Depreciation and amortization 16,680 39,818 7,153 1  Net book value of permanent asset disposals 1,024 1,834 26  Financial resources used in operations 53,138 10,705 26,381 (1  Financial resources used in operations 53,138 5,316	1,647) (844) 653 699 8,576
Net income (loss) for the year/period       (64,272)       (22,794)       17,078       (2         Expenses (income) not affecting working capital:       Deferred and long-term credit for income taxes       (24,303)       (9,529)       2,227       (1         Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve       (844)       (2,531)       (103)         Provision for contingencies       414       894       (103)         Equity in the loss of affiliate       699       7         Provision for losses on investments       17,464       3,013         Depreciation and amortization       16,680       39,818       7,153       1         Net book value of permanent asset disposals       1,024       1,834       26         (53,138)       10,705       26,381       (1         Financial resources used in operations       53,138       10,705       26,381       (1         Decrease in long-term receivables       5,316	1,647) (844) 653 699 8,576
Expenses (income) not affecting working capital:  Deferred and long-term credit for income taxes Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve Provision for contingencies Equity in the loss of affiliate Provision for losses on investments Depreciation and amortization Net book value of permanent asset disposals  (53,138) Decrease in long-term receivables  (24,303) (9,529) 2,227 (10) (24,303) (9,529) 2,227 (10) (25,31) (10,3) (25,31) (10,3) (	1,647) (844) 653 699 8,576
Deferred and long-term credit for income taxes   (24,303)   (9,529)   2,227   (16,529)   (16,529)   (16,529)   (16,529)   (2,531)   (2	(844) 653 699 8,576
Income taxes on realization of revaluation reserve       (844)       (2,531)         Provision for contingencies       414       894       (103)         Equity in the loss of affiliate       699         Provision for losses on investments       17,464       3,013         Depreciation and amortization       16,680       39,818       7,153       1         Net book value of permanent asset disposals       1,024       1,834       26         (53,138)       10,705       26,381       (1         Financial resources used in operations       53,138       1         Decrease in long-term receivables       5,316	(844) 653 699 8,576
Provision for contingencies       414       894       (103)         Equity in the loss of affiliate       699         Provision for losses on investments       17,464       3,013         Depreciation and amortization       16,680       39,818       7,153       1         Net book value of permanent asset disposals       1,024       1,834       26         (53,138)       10,705       26,381       (1         Financial resources used in operations       53,138       1         Decrease in long-term receivables       5,316	653 699 8,576
Equity in the loss of affiliate       699         Provision for losses on investments       17,464       3,013         Depreciation and amortization       16,680       39,818       7,153       1         Net book value of permanent asset disposals       1,024       1,834       26         (53,138)       10,705       26,381       (1         Financial resources used in operations       53,138       1         Decrease in long-term receivables       5,316	699 8,576
Provision for losses on investments         17,464         3,013           Depreciation and amortization         16,680         39,818         7,153         1           Net book value of permanent asset disposals         1,024         1,834         26           (53,138)         10,705         26,381         (1           Financial resources used in operations         53,138         1           Decrease in long-term receivables         5,316	8,576
Depreciation and amortization       16,680       39,818       7,153       1         Net book value of permanent asset disposals       1,024       1,834       26         (53,138)       10,705       26,381       (1         Financial resources used in operations       53,138       1         Decrease in long-term receivables       5,316	
Net book value of permanent asset disposals 1,024 1,834 26  (53,138) 10,705 26,381 (1)  Financial resources used in operations 53,138 1  Decrease in long-term receivables 5,316	
Financial resources used in operations 53,138 10,705 26,381 (1 Decrease in long-term receivables 5,316	7/01
Financial resources used in operations 53,138 1  Decrease in long-term receivables 5,316	171
Financial resources used in operations 53,138 1  Decrease in long-term receivables 5,316	5,871)
Decrease in long-term receivables 5,316	5,871
	1,334
	2,148
Increase in advance for future capital increase	3,124
Share premium 28,684 65,180	-,. <b>-</b> .
Capital increase         26,077         2,166	
Total funds provided         54,761         78,051         31,995	6,606
Financial resources were used for:	
Operations 53,138 1	5,871
Decrease in advance for future capital increase 448 39	
Increase in long-term receivables 58,642 1,024	
Investments 66 31,857	38
Property, plant and equipment 12,369 5,860 2,406	5,356
Deferred charges 25,031	
Decrease in long-term liabilities 4,536 4,866	
<b>Total funds used</b> 129,199 68,677 2,406 2	1,265
Increase (decrease) in working capital (74,438) 9,374 29,589 (1	<u>4,659</u> )
Current assets	
	6,723
	6,792
The title beginning of title years period	0,752
	9,931
Current liabilities	
	4,263
At the beginning of the year/ period 189,673 192,958 258,306 18	
	9,673
Increase (decrease) in working capital (74,438) 9,374 29,589 (1	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

#### 1 Business

The company is owned by three family groups and is operated, together with other companies, as one integrated unit, the Rede Brasil Sul - RBS. The company is located in Porto Alegre, in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, and is engaged in newspaper publishing and distribution (Zero Hora and Diário Gaúcho newspapers in Porto Alegre, Pioneiro newspaper in Caxias do Sul and Diário de Santa Maria newspaper in Santa Maria, all in the State of Rio Grande do Sul; Diário Catarinense newspaper in Florianópolis and Jornal de Santa Catarina newspaper in Blumenau, both in the State of Santa Catarina).

The Rede Brasil Sul - RBS Group includes companies operating in newspaper publishing, television and radio broadcasting, real estate, insurance brokerage, travel agency and other activities.

The Brazilian Federal Constitution establishes that, as from April 2002, foreign shareholders may own a maximum of 30% of the capital of newspaper publishing companies. Until that date, foreign shareholders were not allowed and Brazilian corporations could not own more than 30% of the capital, with no voting shares.

Income and expenses on transactions among the RBS Group companies are allocated among the companies that benefit from or incur the income and expenses using bases that may not necessarily be the same as those that would have been applied if the transactions had been made with unrelated parties.

On December 26, 1996, the company transferred all of its trademarks registered with the *Instituto Nacional de Propriedade Industrial - INPI* (National Industrial Patents Institute) to another RBS Group company, RBS Participações S.A., free of charge. RBS Participações S.A. has been collecting royalties on the company's net operating revenues, calculated at 3.5%.

During the six-month period ended December 31, 2002, because of various reasons, including the reduced availability of international lines of credit to developing markets and political uncertainties relating to the Brazilian presidential elections in October 2002, the Brazilian real devalued sharply (approximately 19%) against the United States dollar. This devaluation affected significantly the balances of the Company's borrowings in foreign currency, most of which fall due within one year.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

During 2003, exchange rates recovered as a result of the increasing confidence of foreign investors and the increase of the volume of US dollars available in the market arising from higher exports of Brazilian products. As of June 30, 2003, the Brazilian real was traded at R\$ 2.872 = US\$ 1.00, almost the same rate at which it was traded on June 30, 2002 (R\$ 2.844 = US\$ 1.00).

Notwithstanding the recovery of the Brazilian currency, management of the RBS Group, which includes the Company, in light of the scarcity of trade financing funds available to Brazilian borrowers in general and the risks associated with the exchange rates, is gradually either paying down loans coming due or refinancing them in local currency.

Other cash needs are being supplied to the Company, when necessary, by RBS Administração e Cobranças Ltda., which functions as a treasury department for the companies of the RBS Group, centralizing the financial resources of all RBS Group companies and allocating them in accordance with their needs (Note 6). Additional alternatives to cope with the refinancing risk to which the Company is currently exposed include: the disposal of certain assets of other RBS Group companies, and capital increases, either from new shareholders, as permitted under recent changes in the Brazilian Constitution, or from the current shareholders.

#### 2 Presentation of the Financial Statements

The accounting records of the company are maintained in accordance with Brazilian corporate and tax legislation, and the financial statements have been prepared therefrom, including certain adjustments to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in Brazil ("Brazilian GAAP"), which originally required the presentation of financial statements under the constant currency methodology, as a means of depicting more clearly the impacts of inflation on a company's financial information.

Under the constant currency methodology, all financial statement balances, including comparative balances from prior years, are presented in reais of constant purchasing power using as the basis for restatement the official index *Unidade Fiscal de Referência - UFIR* (Fiscal Unit of Reference) up to December 31, 1995 and the variation of the *Índice Geral de Preços - Mercado - IGP-M* (General Market Price Index) as from that date. The reported amounts of non-monetary assets, such as inventories and permanent assets, and stockholders' equity (deficit) include restatement as from the date of origin.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

In 2001, Resolution 900 of the Federal Accountancy Council (CFC) established that the indexation of the accounts under the constant currency methodology should be suspended during periods of low inflation, i.e., when the cumulative inflation rate in a 36-month period is less than 100%. The company has therefore suspended the indexation in its financial statements as from September 30, 2001, and subsequent transactions are recorded at their historical amounts without indexation. Likewise, the comparative balances from prior years have been indexed to inflation only up to September 30, 2001.

The price-level restatement of financial statements for both statutory and tax purposes was abolished as from January 1, 1996, by Law 9249. Although the company's statutory accounting records as from January 1, 1996 do not reflect any price-level restatements of permanent assets and stockholders' equity (deficit) accounts, pro forma adjustments have been made to the financial statements to reflect these restatements through the constant currency methodology. These restatements no longer have any tax effects, but pro forma tax adjustments have been made to the financial statements to assure consistency with prior periods as well as to reflect future deferred tax effects, as explained in the following paragraph.

As from January 1, 1996, the full tax effect of the net restatement effect taken to income was recognized as a credit to income at the current tax rates, in order to maintain comparability with the prior periods. The deferred tax liability on the restatement of permanent assets has been shown as a long-term liability and is reversed to income as the restatement is realized through the disposal of investments and the depreciation or disposal of property, plant and equipment. On the other hand, the tax credit/debit arising from the restatement of stockholders' equity (deficit) accounts is reversed and charged to retained earnings since this amount does not represent an actual tax benefit (cost).

#### 3 Significant Accounting Policies

## (a) Determination of results of operations and current and long-term assets and liabilities

Results of operations are determined on the accrual basis and include gains and losses on monetary items, the restatement of non-monetary items, the adjustment to present value of significant fixed-rate trade accounts receivable and payable and, where applicable, the effects of adjustments of assets to market or net realizable values. Except as described in Note 16, net exchange gains and losses on foreign currency liabilities are recorded in financial expenses.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

Revenues from advertising and classified advertisements are recorded when published.

Revenue from circulation relates to sales of newspapers at newsstands and street vendors and is recorded at the time the newspapers are sold to consumers.

Subscription revenue relates to sales of newspapers by subscription. Deferred subscription revenue, which represents amounts billed to customers in advance of newspaper deliveries, is appropriated to revenues over the term of the subscription.

Non-cash exchanges of advertising for services or goods are recorded at market value, both in revenues and expenses.

#### (b) Inventories

Inventories are stated at the average purchase cost, which is lower than net realizable value.

#### (c) Permanent assets

The investments in associated companies shown in Note 7 are stated at cost.

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost plus the effects of revaluations of major items of machinery and equipment (Note 8). Depreciation of property, plant and equipment is computed on the straight-line method, at the rates shown in Note 8, which take into consideration the estimated useful lives of the assets.

Deferred charges include mainly the foreign exchange losses for the quarter ended March 31, 1999 and the year ended December 31, 2001 (Note 16), which were being amortized over a four-year period, or recognized upon the payment of the related liabilities, or offset against future foreign exchange gains arising from these liabilities.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

#### (d) Income taxes

Income tax is calculated at the standard rate plus supplementary rates totaling 25%. Social contribution tax is calculated at the current rate of 9% applied to adjusted income before income tax. Deferred income taxes are calculated on temporary differences and tax loss carryforwards. Tax losses do not expire but may be used to offset only up to 30% of future taxable income in any year.

## (e) Statements of operations, of changes in stockholders' equity (deficit) and of changes in financial position

During periods in which the indexation of balances under the constant currency methodology is applicable (see Note 2), the amounts presented in these statements are indexed as from the month they are recorded and are adjusted by purchasing power gains and losses on monetary items.

#### 4 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2002 include R\$ 6,549 (December 31, 2001 - R\$ 36,726; June 30, 2002 - R\$ 36,926) of short-term investments.

#### 5 Inventories

	<u>D</u>	ecember 31		June 30
	2002	2001	2003 (Unaudited)	2002 (Unaudited)
Newsprint	8,558	3,759	9,685	1,865
Maintenance materials	5,473	5,577	5,953	5,378
Fascicles (inserts), video-cassette tapes and				
compact discs (CD)	685	672	944	923
Provision for losses	(419)	(462)	(379)	(462)
Imports in transit (newsprint)	11,559	2,158	3,091	4,343
	25,856	11,704	19,294	12,047

Let 0 filed a - Editor a 501 Hallstica 3.43.  Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reals, unless otherwise stated	A. ember 31, 2002 and 200 stated	01 and June 30,	, 2003 and 2002	(Unaudited)				
Related Party Transactions and Balances	<b>20</b>							
				December 31				June 30
		2002		2001		2003		2002
	Assets (liabilities)	Income (expenses)	Assets (liabilities)	Income (expenses)	Assets (liabilities) (Unaudited)	Income (expenses)	Assets (liabilities)	Income (expenses)
RBS Administração e Cobranças Ltda. Current assets (liabilities) - Group companies	10,380		6,424		(64,235)		13,034	
Televisão Gaúcha S.A. Current assets - Group companies Long-term receivables - Group companies General and administrative (reimbursement)	(44)	(1,124)	(48)		(63)	(155)	(44)	(546)
Empresa Jornalística Pioneiro S.A. Current assets - Group companies Long-term receivables - Group companies (advance for future capital increase)			40					
Rádio Gaúcha S.A. Long-term receivables - Group companies Financial expense				(50)				
RBS. TV de Florianópolis S.A. Financial expense				(363)				
RBS Participações S.A. Current assets - Group companies Long-term receivables - Group companies Financial income	53,308	391	(756)	·	47,860	3,234	2,401	153
RBS Marketing e Informática Ltda. Current assets - Group companies Long-term receivables - Group companies	5,411		778		5,411		3,779	

State   Francis   State   Francis   State   Francis   State   State	2002 2001 Income Assets Income	
Assets   Income   Assets   Income   Incompanies   Incompa	Income Assets Income	
102   11   11   11   11   11   11   11	(expenses) (liabilities) (expenses) (l	Asse (liabilitie
aup companies 878  All sanies (37) (9) (70) (90) unts payable (63) (511)	93	ies o companies
wip companies (37) (9) (90) (18) (19) (19) (19) (20) (21) (211)		p companies
liabilities - Advance for future capital increase (63) (511)	(9)	anies up companies (reimbursement)
	(115)	iabilities - Advance for future capital increase liabilities - Accounts payable

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

- (a) RBS Administração e Cobranças Ltda. is a group company which functions as a treasury department, carrying out all collections and making all payments on behalf of the companies of the RBS Group. The balances with this company bear no interest and are shown in current assets because the funds held by this company on behalf of the group companies are readily available.
- (b) Loans to and from other related companies bear interest calculated at market rates. Advances for future capital increase bear no interest. Loans to RBS Marketing e Informática Ltda. and Agência RBS de Notícias Ltda. bear no interest.
- (c) The company, together with the other three main media companies of the RBS Group, has guaranteed the first and second tranches, amounting to US\$ 50,000,000 and US\$ 125,000,000, respectively, of a US\$ 200,000,000 Global Medium-Term Notes Program issued by RBS Participações S.A. in December 1995 and in March 1997, with final maturity in 2003 and 2007. In connection with this Program, the company is required to observe certain negative covenants. All of these covenants are being observed.
  - Additionally, on April 25, 2002, the company, together with the other three main media companies of the RBS Group, guaranteed the interest rate swap contracted by RBS Participações S.A. in the notional amount of R\$ 294,600 (equivalent to US\$ 125,000,000 on that date) exchanging the U.S. dollar exchange variation for the interbank certificate of deposit (CDI) interest rate less 6.36% p.a. The due date of such contract is March 29, 2007.
- (d) The company was also guarantor of Televisão Gaúcha S.A.'s lease agreement, with unpaid installments in the amount of US\$ 769,450 at December 31, 2001 (June 30, 2002 US\$ 119,681) plus interest based on LIBOR plus 1.5% to 2.5% p.a. The lease agreement was fully paid in September 2002.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

#### 7 Investments

	De	cember 31		June 30
		2001	2003 (Unaudited)	2002 (Unaudited)
Net Serviços de Comunicação S.A. Provision for losses Other investments	31,753 (20,477) 3,661	31,753 (3,013) 5,004	31,753 (20,477) 3,661	31,753 (3,013) 3,676
	14,937	33,744	14,937	32,416

(a) The investment in Net Serviços de Comunicação S.A. (formerly known as Globo Cabo S.A.) consists of 3,548,152 preferred shares, representing approximately 0.2% of the investee's total capital, acquired on August 24, 2001 from RBS Participações S.A. for R\$ 31,753. This investment is stated at cost, less a provision for estimated losses.

Net Serviços de Comunicação S.A. is a holding company for several subsidiary companies which operate cable and microwave TV systems in the main Brazilian cities.

The market value of the investment in Net Serviços de Comunicação S.A. at December 31, 2002, based on the quotation of that company's shares on the stock exchange, was approximately R\$ 1,490 (June 30, 2003 - R\$ 1,029). A provision for estimated losses in the amount of R\$ 20,477 has been recorded, reducing the carrying amount of this investment to R\$ 11,276. Management believes that the remaining difference between the carrying value and the market value of this investment is not of a permanent nature, considering the recent measures adopted by the investee to extend its debt maturities, increase its paid-in capital, and restructure its administrative processes, as well as historical global trends of fair value per subscriber observed in the market. Because of the uncertainties and volatility in the stock market, management will continue to monitor the market value of this investment and will complement the allowance for loss if a permanent loss of value is observed.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

(b) On April 18, 2002, the stockholders of the company and of Empresa Jornalistica Pioneiro S.A. (Pioneiro) decided to unify the operations of the two companies by merging Pioneiro into the company. The company previously held a 9.31% interest in Pioneiro, recorded under the cost method. The merger was based on an appraisal of statutory book value carried out by independent experts, as follows:

March 31, 2002

Assets Stockholders' equity 12,067 4,346

As a result of this transaction, the company recorded a loss of R\$ 699 from the difference between the carrying value of the investment (cost method) and the company's share of Pioneiro's stockholders' equity.

Property, Plant and Equipment							
						*	
			Q	December 31		June 30	
			2002	2001	2003	2002	
) rev	Cost and revaluation	Accumulated depreciation	Net	Net	Net	Net	Annual depreciation rates - %
					(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Land	599		599	128	599	808	
Buildings and structures	18,916	(11,162)	7,754	7,548	7,484	7,891	4 to 10
nistanations Machinery and equipment	10,748	(8,842)	1,906	1,932	2,071	2,387	10 and 20
	1,867	(1,547)	320	531	331	442	20 and 33
Other	5,431		5,431	6,140	5,350	5,660	
	244,402	(178,467)	65,935	70,582	61,209	66,143	

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

- (a) On December 31, 1994, the company decided to revalue the major items of machinery and equipment based on an appraisal carried out by independent experts. Deferred tax effects on the revaluation increment are recorded upon realization of the reserve (Note 13 (c)).
- (b) On December 31, 1999, the company decided to revalue the printing presses and accessories purchased during the preceding three years, based on an appraisal carried out by independent experts. For tax purposes the revaluation increment was considered as realized, and the tax effects were fully recorded on this date in the 1999 statement of operations, together with the tax effects arising from the normal operations.

The details of this revaluation are shown as follows:

Replacement cost Original cost, net of depreciation	48,670 (26,775)
Revaluation recorded	21,895
Income tax and social contribution recorded in 1999	7,225

### 9 Trade Accounts Payable

Trade accounts payable at December 31, 2002 include R\$ 27,430 (December 31, 2001 - R\$ 8,585; June 30, 2003 - R\$ 7,760; June 30, 2002 - R\$ 12,005) payable to foreign suppliers and indexed to the U.S. dollar.

# Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited)

In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

### 10 Loans

		De	cember 31		June 30
	Interest	2002	2001	2003 (Unaudited)	2002
Foreign currency US\$ 40,360 thousand (December 31, 2001 - US\$ 67,771 thousand; June 30, 2003 - US\$ 17,689 thousand; June 30, 2002 -	LIBOR plus 0.5% to			Chaudittu	(Chaudicu)
US\$ 65,703 thousand)	6.5 % p.a.	142,605	157,255	50,802	186,887
Local currency	CDI plus 3% p.a. and 2.55% to 2.6% p.m. and 120% of CDI	45,685		43,857	
	125% of CDI	11,137	203	144	525
		199,427	157,458	94,803	187,412
Current liabilities		(196,016)	(149,279)	(91,094)	(181,026)
Long-term liabilities		3,411	8,179	3,709	6,386
Long-term loans fall due	as follows:				
2003 2004 2005		3,411	5,939 2,240	2,782 927	3,640 2,746
		3,411	8,179	3,709	6,386

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

Loans are backed by sureties from: Maiojama Participações Ltda. (R\$ 12,648), a related company; Televisão Gaúcha S.A. (R\$ 6,801); RBS Administração e Cobranças Ltda. (R\$ 33,508); and RBSPar Ltd. (R\$ 20,865). Other loans have no guarantees.

#### 11 Stockholders' Equity

(a) Capital comprises common and preferred shares without par value:

	D	December 31		June 30	
	2002	2001	2003 (Unaudited)	2002 (Unaudited)	
Common shares Preferred shares	69,003,649 29,572,993	4,969,112 2,129,619	69,003,649 29,572,993	50,750,000 21,750,000	
	98,576,642	7,098,731	98,576,642	72,500,000	

The stockholders are entitled to an annual dividend of not less than 25% of net income per the statutory financial statements, after appropriation to the legal reserve of an amount equivalent to 5% of the annual net income, up to the limit of 20% of capital, also per the statutory financial statements.

On August 24, 2001, the shareholders authorized another RBS Group company to subscribe 30% of the capital of the company in the amount of R\$ 67,346, including a premium over book value of R\$ 65,180.

On April 30, 2002, the shareholders decided to increase the company's capital through the capitalization of reserves totaling R\$ 67,145.

On December 19, 2002, the shareholders decided to increase the company's capital by the amount of R\$ 54,761, including a premium over book value of R\$ 28,684.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

- (b) Law 9249 introduced as from 1996 an option for companies to calculate a nominal interest charge on capital invested and utilized in operations for the period (defined as total stockholders' equity less revaluation reserves) calculated on a pro rata basis based on the *Taxa de Juros de Longo Prazo TJLP* (long-term interest rate). This charge, limited to 50% of the net income for the period or of retained earnings, is deductible for income tax purposes and social contribution, but is subject to 15% withholding tax; such interest amounts may be used to increase capital or be paid directly to stockholders either as interest or as prepayment of the minimum statutory dividend.
- (c) The balance of accumulated losses in the company's statutory financial statements is reconciled to the balances in these financial statements as follows:

	December 31		June 30	
	2002	2001	2003 (Unaudited)	2002 (Unaudited)
Balances per statutory financial statements	(127,921)	(46,672)	(108,392)	(66,714)
Adjustments arising from the constant currency accounting methodology	5,104	9,068	4,519	7,337
Further adjustments to conform the financial statements to accounting principles generally accepted in Brazil	(911)	(10,102)	(718)	(9,034)
Balances in these financial statements	(123,728)	(47,706)	(104,591)	(68,411)

#### 12 Financial Income and Expenses

Financial expenses include R\$ 14,247 (December 31, 2001 - R\$ 12,424; June 30, 2003 - R\$ 9,439; June 30, 2002 - R\$ 5,215) of interest and a loss of R\$ 71,561 (December 31, 2001 - R\$ 687 loss (including R\$ 17,832 referring to the amortization of deferred charges (see Note 16)); June 30, 2003 - R\$ 18,685 gain (R\$ 8,333 of which recorded as financial income); June 30, 2002 - R\$ 41,502 loss (including R\$ 7,901 referring to the amortization of deferred charges (see Note 16))) from monetary variations on bank loans. The monetary variation amounts consider the differences between the exchange variations on foreign currency loans and the inflation indices used to prepare the constant currency financial statements, when applicable. Allocation of monetary gains and losses is subject to estimates made by management.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

#### 13 Social Contribution and Income Tax

### (a) Reconciliation of income tax and social contribution

		December 31		June 30		
		2002	2001	2003 (Unaudited)	2002 (Unaudited)	
<b>(I)</b>	Income tax			(Chauditeu)	(Onaduricu)	
	Income (loss) before income tax and social	(00.050)				
	contribution Rate - %	(89,362) 25	(34,021) 25	25,789 25	(36,583) 25	
		22,341	8,505	(6,447)	9,146	
	Effects of permanent differences:					
	Non-deductible expenses	(5,375)	(387)	(127)	(232)	
	Non-taxable income	225	6,808	170	214	
	Other	1,247	(5,892)	<u>(1)</u>	51	
	As per statement of operations	18,438	9,034	(6,405)	9,179	
(II)	Social contribution					
	Income (loss) before income tax and social					
	contribution	(89,362)	(34,021)	25,789	(36,583)	
Rate - %	Rate - %	9	9	<del>9</del> .	9	
		8,043	3,062	(2,321)	3,292	
	Effects of permanent differences:					
	Non-deductible expenses	(1,935)	(140)	(45)	(81)	
	Non-taxable income	81	2,451	62	`77 <sup>′</sup>	
	Other	463	(3,180)	(2)	17	
	As per statement of operations	6,652	2,193	(2,306)	3,305	

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

### (b) Nature of balances

		D	ecember 31	June 30		
		2002	2001	2003	2002	
(T)	In come ton			(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
<b>(I)</b>	Income tax					
	Deferred income taxes					
	Long-term receivables	27.657	16 122	25.502	22 210	
	Tax loss carryforwards	37,657	16,133	35,592	23,319	
	Long-term liabilities					
	Monetary variations of permanent assets	2,986	4,509	2,688	3,812	
	Other temporary differences	(318)		(247)	(41)	
		2,668	4,509	2,441	3,771	
	Provision for income taxes - current			4,809		
	Long-term liabilities - Accelerated depreciation	622	1,133	375	878	
(II)	Social contribution					
	Deferred income taxes					
	Long-term receivables	12.015	5.000	12 100	0.647	
	Tax loss carryforwards	13,915	5,808	13,198	8,647	
	Long-term liabilities					
	Monetary variations of permanent assets	1,075	1,987	968	1,372	
	Other temporary differences	(114)	· 	(88)	(14)	
		961	1,987	880	1,358	
	Provision for income taxes - current			1,670		

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

#### (c) Deferred tax on revaluation reserve

Accounting practices adopted in Brazil require the recognition of deferred tax liabilities on revaluations recorded as from July 1, 1995. This requirement was not applicable at the time the company recorded the revaluation of certain machinery and equipment in December 1994 (Note 8); the related unrecognized deferred income tax liability at December 31, 2001 amounted to R\$ 807.

#### 14 Contingencies

- (a) The company is party to various civil lawsuits that have arisen in the ordinary course of its business, including actions for libel. Based on the opinion of the in-house legal counsel, management does not believe that any litigation pending against the company will have a material adverse effect on its business or financial condition.
- (b) The company is the defendant in certain labor and tax suits. Provisions for estimated probable losses from contingencies have been recorded based on the opinions of external and in-house legal advisors.

#### 15 Pension Fund

The companies in the RBS Group (the "Sponsors") have formed RBS Prev-Sociedade Previdenciária, a private pension fund (the "Fund"), to provide employees with supplementary pension and disability benefits, in addition to those paid by the National Social Security System. The Fund was approved by the Ministry of Social Security in October 1996 and was implemented as from January 1997.

The Fund is a defined contribution plan, with contributions from Sponsors and participants calculated based on variable amounts and percentages at the option of each participant. The normal contributions of the Sponsors are based on the basic contribution of the participants at rates of up to 300% depending on the participant's age. Past service benefits will be funded by the Sponsors over twenty years through monthly payments adjusted by the *Índice Nacional de Preços ao Consumidor - INPC* (National Consumer Price Index). These contributions will automatically cease when the participant terminates employment for any reason, reaches retirement age, dies or becomes disabled.

Notes to the Financial Statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 and June 30, 2003 and 2002 (Unaudited) In thousands of Brazilian reais, unless otherwise stated

Furthermore, the Sponsors may opt to make additional contributions at any time, and the normal and additional contributions may be revised by the participants and Sponsors in February of each year. The Sponsors may also temporarily reduce or suspend their contributions, maintaining only those necessary to cover the benefits already accrued to the participants or their beneficiaries.

The sponsors do not have any responsibility to guarantee the minimum level of the benefits to the participants when they terminate their employment.

The company's contributions in the year ended December 31, 2002 amounted to R\$ 1,429 (December 31, 2001 - R\$ 1,450; six-month period ended June 30, 2003 - R\$ 732; June 30, 2002 - R\$ 726).

The Fund's financial statements at December 31, 2002 and 2001 were examined by independent accountants, and the actuarial reserves were determined by an actuary. The independent accountants issued unqualified opinions on those financial statements.

#### 16 Deferred Charges

In 1999, the company decided to defer recognition of the R\$ 47,347 foreign exchange loss for the quarter ended March 31, 1999, as permitted by Provisional Measure no. 1818 dated March 25, 1999, which was later converted into Law 9816 dated August 23, 1999, and CVM Deliberation no. 294 dated March 26, 1999. As of December 31, 2001, the exchange loss deferred by the company amounted to R\$ 7,573 (June 30, 2002 - R\$ 1,594), net of the related amortization.

In 2001, the company decided to defer recognition of the R\$ 24,044 foreign exchange loss for the year ended December 31, 2001, as permitted by Provisional Measure no. 3 dated September 21, 2001, later converted into Law 10305 dated November 7, 2001. As of December 31, 2001, the exchange loss deferred by the company amounted to R\$ 18,033 (June 30, 2002 - R\$ 15,027), net of the related amortization.

In 2002, the company decided to fully amortize the remaining balance of these deferred foreign exchange losses, amounting to R\$ 25,606, against accumulated deficit. The adjustment was recorded net of the related tax effect, in the amount of R\$ 8,706.